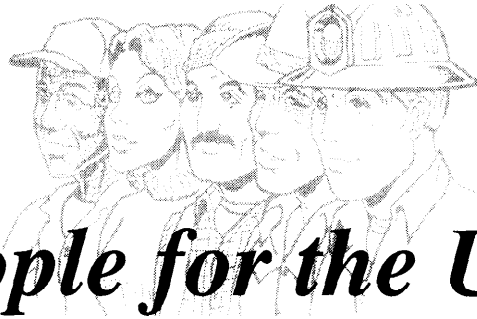


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U.S. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION

99 SEP -8 PM 1:50

People for the USA

September 3, 1999

U.S. DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION DOCKETS,
DOCKET NO. FAA-99-59274 *SS*
400 SEVENTH STREET SW, ROOM PLAZA 401
WASHINGTON DC 20590

I am against the new proposed regulations for the Commercial Air Tour Groups fights over the Grand Canyon.

The actions are based on flawed science. The proposed rules sets a nonsensically low noise threshold for two-thirds of the park, including areas that air tours currently operate. The noise threshold is barely above the threshold of hearing for people with excellent hearing, and below the threshold of hearing for many adults. FAA proposals, combined with a new NPS noise evaluation methodology, will give the agencies proof that natural quiet has not been substantiated, thereby setting the stage for further regulations in the future.

The actions are unjustified and unwarranted. Natural quiet has been substantially restored - visitor complaints have dropped dramatically in last few years.

Only 4.6 of Grand Canyon visitors are using the backcountry compared to the 800,000 visitors who have viewed the Grand Canyon by air. 95% of visitors are unaffected by aircraft sound because air flights are prohibit over concentrated areas.

*Market should determined number of air fights.

*Allocations will force some air tours out of business.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Allen
Southwest Field Director
P.O. Box 28
Heber, AZ 85928
520-535-3385